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CLASSIFICATION

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SECRET
MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR
STAFF

DATE-TIME GROUP
161827Z

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

125981

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DISSEM BY:

CONF: SA/100 INFO: FILE ECU88, 1P/0MS, LA8 OCT
2004, 000/00, 000/50,

TO: [REDACTED] INFO LONDON, MEXICO CITY. 4
RYBAT, UNINTEL, RNVIEW 4

(1) CTR
(2) filb

1. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SELECT COMMITTEE ON
ASSASSINATIONS WHO CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.
SURROUNDING ASSASSINATIONS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING HAS TOLD STATE THAT THEY INTEND TO PURSUE LEADS IN
PORTUGAL, UK AND MEXICO RELATING TO JAMES EARL RAY, CURRENTLY
SERVING TIME FOR KING MURDER. THEY BASING THIS INTEREST ON
INFORMATION THAT RAY WAS IN LISBON BRIEFLY IN MAY 1968, SHORTLY
BEFORE HIS APPREHENSION IN LONDON IN JUNE 1968. 4

2. MR. G. ROBERT BLAKEY, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR
OF COMMITTEE SAYS SELECT COMMITTEE TOLD STATE THAT HE WANTS TO
ESTABLISH "CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH APPROPRIATE PORTUGUESE
NATIONAL POLICE AND HOPES TO ENLIST THEIR ASSISTANCE INCLUDING
ACCESS TO THEIR FILES AND IN LOCATING AND INTERVIEWING POTENTIAL
WITNESSES. 4

3. DEPARTMENT HAS SOLICITED EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW
BLAKEY SHOULD PROCEED. 4

DATE:
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22228

RELEASING OFFICER
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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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DIRECTOR

CONF:

INFO: FILE

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4. WISH TO CALL ABOVE TO ADDRESSEES' ATTENTION IN EVENT STATIONS ARE SOLICITED FOR ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE. ACTION IS COOPERATING FULLY WITH BLAKELY AND COMMITTEE INCLUDING ALLOWING THEM ACCESS TO DIRECTORATE RECORDS, AFTER SUITABLE SANITIZATION FOR SOURCES AND METHODS. HOWEVER, BELIEVE COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS TO INTERVIEW POLICE AND WITNESSES AND RESULTING USEFUL INFORMATION OBTAINED, IF ANY, IS LARGELY OVERT FUNCTION WHICH CAN BEST BE HANDLED BY LEGATTS OR OTHERS WHO WOULD ALSO BE IN A POSITION TO BE PUBLICLY QUOTED OR IDENTIFIED IF NECESSARY. 4

5. STATIONS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE EMBASSY BEST ADVICE IF SOLICITED BUT REQUESTED TO AVOID INVOLVING STATION OFFICERS IN NEGOTIATIONS EVEN IN THEIR COVER CAPACITIES. IF CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH THAT THIS UNAVOIDABLE, PLEASE ADVISE HQS BY CABLE SO THAT THE MATTER CAN BE APPROPRIATELY HANDLED WITH BLAKELY AND DEPARTMENT. ■ H

ORIG: 0/SA/DO/0 {SOVERN}; COORD: OLC {CUMMINS}, DC/LA {LAUDER},
 AGEB {HAWKINS} ^{JAMES}, C/LA/ ~~EX~~ {ESTES}, DC/EUR/BC {ESTES}, C/EUR/IB {BERGER}; AUTH:
 SA/DO/0 {KATROSH}; REL: DC/EUR {ESTES}.

DATE: 14 NOVEMBER 1977
 ORIG: MASOVERN
 UNIT: 0/SA/DO/0
 EXT: 1542

DC/EUR
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